

Thornton, NH



Community Contact

Town of Thornton
Debra Shepard, Town Administrator
 16 Merrill Access Road
 Thornton, NH 03285

Telephone
 Fax
 E-mail
 Web Site

(603) 726-8168
(603) 726-2078
townadmin@thornton.org
www.townofthornton.org

Municipal Office Hours

Selectmen: Monday through Thursday, 8 am - 4 pm, Friday, 8 am - 3:30 pm; Town Clerk, Tax Collector: Monday through Thursday, 8 am - 4 pm, Friday, 8 am - 3:30 pm

County
 Labor Market Area
 Tourism Region
 Planning Commission
 Regional Development

Grafton
Plymouth, NH LMA
White Mountains
North Country Council
Grafton County Economic Development Council

Election Districts
 US Congress
 Executive Council
 State Senate
 State Representative

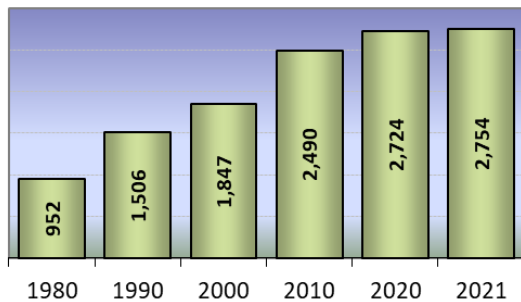
District 2
District 2
District 2
Grafton County District 4

Incorporated: 1763

Origin: This territory was chartered in 1763, and named for Dr. Matthew Thornton. The grant was given to him in return for his service as surgeon in the Pepperell expedition of 1745. Dr. Thornton, whose practice was in Merrimack, was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, a justice of the Superior Court, speaker of the House of Representatives, member of the State Senate, delegate to the Continental Congress, and "president" of the state following the Revolutionary War. No settlements were made under the first grant, and a second was issued in 1768; the first settlements were made in 1770.

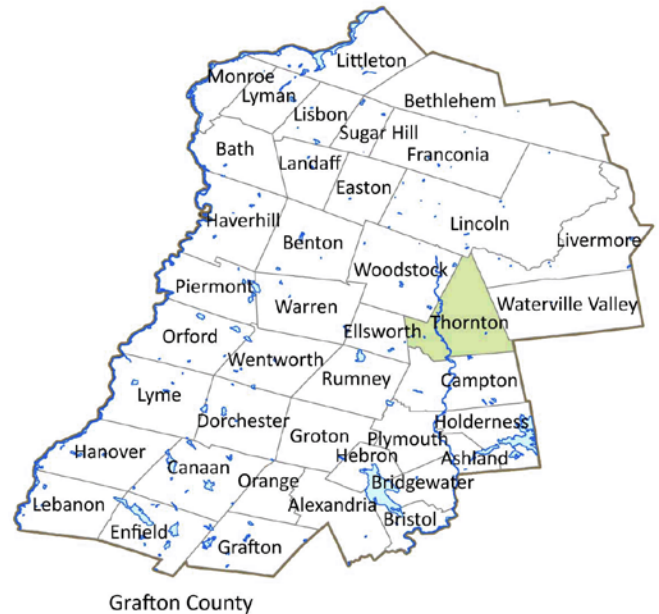
Villages and Place Names: Goose Hollow, West Thornton

Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 385 residents in 1790



Population Trends: Population change for Thornton totaled 1,802 over 41 years, from 952 in 1980 to 2,754 in 2021. The largest decennial percent change was a 58 percent increase between 1980 and 1990. The 2021 Census estimate for Thornton was 2,754 residents, which ranked 114th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

Population Density and Land Area, 2021 (US Census Bureau): 54.8 persons per square mile of land area. Thornton contains 50.3 square miles of land area and 0.4 square miles of inland water area.



MUNICIPAL SERVICES	
Type of Government	Selectmen
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2021	\$3,691,583
Budget: School Appropriations, 2021-2022	\$5,165,319
Zoning Ordinance	1970/19
Master Plan	2013
Capital Improvement Plan	Yes
Industrial Plans Reviewed By	Planning Board
Boards and Commissions	
Elected:	Selectmen; Trust Funds; Planning; Library; Treasurer; Overseer Public Welfare
Appointed:	Conservation; Zoning
Public Library	Thornton Public

EMERGENCY SERVICES	
Police Department	Full-time
Fire Department	Municipal
Emergency Medical Service	Municipal
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance Staffed Beds
Speare Memorial, Plymouth	15 miles 25

UTILITIES	
Electric Supplier	Eversource Energy; NH Electric Coop
Natural Gas Supplier	None
Water Supplier	Private wells
Sanitation	Private septic
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant	No
Solid Waste Disposal	
Curbside Trash Pickup	None
Pay-As-You-Throw Program	No
Recycling Program	Mandatory
Telephone Company	Consolidated Communications
Cellular Telephone Access	Limited
Cable Television Access	Yes
Public Access Television Station	No
High Speed Internet Service:	Business Residential
	Limited Limited

PROPERTY TAXES (NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2021 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$20.77
2021 Equalization Ratio	79.1
2021 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)	\$16.35
2021 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type	
Residential Land and Buildings	95.6%
Commercial Land and Buildings	2.2%
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other	2.2%

HOUSING (ACS 2016-2020)	
Total Housing Units	1,993
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached	1,611
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:	
Two to Four Units in Structure	80
Five or More Units in Structure	167
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units	135

POPULATION (1-YEAR ESTIMATES/DECENNIAL) (US Census Bureau)	
Total Population	Community County
2021	2,754 92,201
2020	2,723 91,123
2010	2,490 89,118
2000	1,847 81,826
1990	1,506 74,998
1980	952 65,806

DEMOGRAPHICS AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) 2016-2020		
Population by Gender		
Male	1,466	Female 1,054
Population by Age Group		
Under age 5	104	
Age 5 to 19	367	
Age 20 to 34	440	
Age 35 to 54	671	
Age 55 to 64	523	
Age 65 and over	415	
Median Age	44.8 years	
Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over		
High school graduate or higher	97.1%	
Bachelor's degree or higher	36.4%	

INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$ (ACS 2016-2020)	
Per capita income	\$35,457
Median family income	\$83,365
Median household income	\$74,583
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers	
Male	\$46,286
Female	\$39,654
Individuals below the poverty level	2.8%

LABOR FORCE (NHES – ELMI)		
Annual Average	2011	2021
Civilian labor force	1,598	1,662
Employed	1,518	1,611
Unemployed	80	51
Unemployment rate	5.0%	3.1%

EMPLOYMENT & WAGES (NHES – ELMI)		
Annual Average Covered Employment	2011	2021
Goods Producing Industries		
Average Employment	20	31
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 576	\$ 775
Service Providing Industries		
Average Employment	84	207
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 391	\$ 664
Total Private Industry		
Average Employment	104	238
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 426	\$ 678
Government (Federal, State, and Local)		
Average Employment	64	37
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 468	\$ 957
Total, Private Industry plus Government		
Average Employment	167	275
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 442	\$ 716

EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

Schools students attend:	Thornton operates grades K-8; grades 9-12 are part of Pemi-Baker Cooperative (Ashland, Campton, Holderness, Plymouth, Rumney, Thornton, Wentworth)				District: SAU 48
Career Technology Center(s):	Plymouth Applied Technology Center				
Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial	
Number of Schools	1				
Grade Levels	K 1-8				
Total Enrollment	203				

Nearest Community College: **Lakes Region**
 Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Plymouth State University**

2021 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing) Total Facilities: **0** Total Capacity: **0**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Not Available			

Employer Information Supplied by Municipality

TRANSPORTATION (distances estimated from city/town hall)			
Road Access	US Routes		3
	State Routes		49, 175
Nearest Interstate, Exit		I-93, Exit 29	
	Distance		Local access
Railroad			No
Public Transportation			No
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation			
Plymouth Regional	Runway	2,380 ft. turf	
Lighted? No	Navigation Aids?		No
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service			
Lebanon Municipal	Distance	58 miles	
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport			1
Driving distance to select cities:			
Manchester, NH		72 miles	
Portland, Maine		105 miles	
Boston, Mass.		122 miles	
New York City, NY		319 miles	
Montreal, Quebec		199 miles	
COMMUTING TO WORK (ACS 2016-2020)			
Workers 16 years and over			
Drove alone, car/truck/van			76.9%
Carpooled, car/truck/van			11.9%
Public transportation			0.0%
Walked			0.7%
Other means			1.6%
Worked at home			8.9%
Mean Travel Time to Work		26.3 minutes	
Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2016-2020			
Working in community of residence			87.0%
Commuting to another NH community			9.8%
Commuting out-of-state			3.2%

RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS	
X	Municipal Parks
	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
X	Golf Courses
	Swimming: Indoor Facility
	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
	Bowling Facilities
	Museums
	Cinemas
	Performing Arts Facilities
X	Tourist Attractions
X	Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
	Youth Sports: Baseball
	Youth Sports: Soccer
	Youth Sports: Football
	Youth Sports: Basketball
	Youth Sports: Hockey
X	Campgrounds
X	Fishing/Hunting
X	Boating/Marinas
X	Snowmobile Trails
	Bicycle Trails
X	Cross Country Skiing
	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
	Overnight or Day Camps
	Nearest Ski Area(s): Loon Mountain, Waterville Valley
	Other: Waterville Valley; Loon Mountain; White Mountains